

Pandemic Influenza Planning Recommendations for Law Enforcement Agencies

1. Establish/Appoint Departmental Avian Influenza Coordinator as Point-of-Contact for officers, outside agencies and local and state health departments. Coordinator will be responsible for development of departmental preparedness plans.
2. Provide educational resources and establish departmental programs with continually updated material and recommendations for all personnel and their families. Resources should include:
 - a. Preventive Measures: N95 masks, eye protection, gloves, alcohol gel, LEO specific infection control policy dealing with public and suspect contacts.
 - b. Current Modes of Transmission: respiratory droplets, surface contact and contact with ill birds or their feces.
 - c. Symptom Recognition: fever, chills, muscle ache, cough, shortness of-breath.
3. Purchase cache of N95 masks for sworn and non-sworn personnel that come into contact with the public and/or suspects.
4. Establish fit testing program for N95 masks (Qualitative testing required if the N95 is mandatory issued equipment. In pandemic, OSHA may grant an emergency waiver.)
5. Establish sick leave policies modeled upon Toronto Police Department Policy from 2003 SARS outbreak (to reduce risk to fellow personnel, employees with symptoms will not report to work until symptom free).
6. Determine availability of local and state antiviral (Tamiflu) supplies. If no LEO dedicated supply, consider purchasing departmental or shared multi-agency cache. Antiviral medications will be dispensed only if an employee contracts avian influenza.
7. Establish policies and procedures for public contacts (N95 mask if within 6 feet, eye protection, gloves and liberal use of alcohol gel).
8. Establish policies and procedures for detention, interviewing and arrest of suspects/detainees (N95 mask if within 6 feet, eye protection, gloves, liberal use of alcohol gel, vehicle cleaning and surgical masks for suspects with symptoms).
9. Establish policies and procedures with correction facilities for post-arrest management of symptomatic suspects/detainees.

www.pandemicflu.gov

www.adph.org/pandemicflu

www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/stopgerms.htm

www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/resphygiene.htm

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/pandemic/pandemic_main.html